

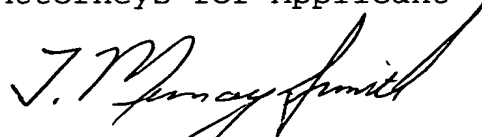
REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed concurrently with a Notice of Appeal and an Appeal Brief for the present application, in order to cancel from the specification a paragraph that was previously added by a prior Amendment filed on September 25, 2000. The pending final rejection mailed on June 3, 2002 includes a requirement by the Examiner for cancellation of this added paragraph. It is thus expected that the present Amendment will be entered, because it effects compliance with a requirement made by the Examiner.

Cancellation of the indicated paragraph from the specification should not be interpreted to be an indication that Applicants agree with the Examiner's stated reason for seeking cancellation of the paragraph. In this regard, Applicants added the paragraph with the intent that it would explain in different words a feature which was inherently disclosed in the originally-filed application papers. The Examiner objected, asserting that the paragraph added "new matter" to the disclosure of the invention. Applicants still maintain that the subject matter of the paragraph was inherently and fully supported by the originally-filed disclosure of the present invention. Nevertheless, the paragraph was not needed to support the patentability of any pending claim, and the paragraph has therefore been canceled in order to put the present application in better condition for appeal.

Applicants respectfully request entry of this  
Amendment in association with the commencement of the appeal.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Enclosure: None